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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
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Agenda item 2 (i)

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON CREDENTIALS

Report of the Bureau

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with rule 19 of the draft rules of procedure, being applied, "the credentials of representatives as well as the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the secretariat if possible not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the session. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the secretariat. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister of Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization".

2. Furthermore, rule 20 of the draft rules of procedure, being applied, provides that "the Bureau of any session shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the Conference of the Parties".

3. The present report is submitted to the Conference of the Parties in the light of the foregoing.

II. CREDENTIALS OF PARTIES TO THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

4. On 26 July 2001, the Bureau met to examine the credentials submitted by Parties to the Convention.

5. The Bureau had before it a memorandum dated 26 July 2001 from the Executive Secretary on the status of credentials of representatives participating in the Conference. The information in this memorandum is reflected below.

6. As noted in the memorandum of the Executive Secretary, formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, as provided for in rule 19 of the draft rules of procedure being applied, had been received by the secretariat for the representatives of the following 132 Parties participating in the Conference: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, European Community, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

7. Information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in the Conference had been communicated by means of facsimile in the form of letters or notes verbales from ministries, embassies, permanent missions to the United Nations or other Government offices or authorities, or through local United Nations offices, by the following 47 Parties participating in the Conference: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Gabon, Georgia, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Venezuela, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

8. Consequently, the President proposed that the Bureau should accept the credentials of all the representatives mentioned in the memorandum of the Executive Secretary, on the understanding that formal credentials for the representatives referred to in paragraph 7 above would be communicated to the secretariat as soon as possible. The Bureau accepted the proposal and agreed to submit the present report to the Conference. The Bureau further agreed to recommend to the Conference that it take note of this report.

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